



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Robbery, Assault for Long Beach Attack

A 39-year-old man pleaded not guilty yesterday to stealing a woman's purse following an assault and then attacking her husband, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Rodrick Smith (dob 12/17/77) was charged with two felony counts in case NA106252: second-degree robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.

The felony complaint includes a special allegation that the defendant personally inflicted great bodily injury on the female victim during the commission of the robbery.

Additionally, the charging document alleges Smith was previously convicted of driving or taking a vehicle without consent in 1999, bank robbery in 2001, possession for sale of cocaine base in 2011 and carrying a concealed dirk/dagger in 2012.

Deputy District Attorney Simone Shay, who is assigned to the case, said on April 13, Smith was driving his vehicle in a Long Beach parking lot when he allegedly rear-ended another motorist.

Smith and the female driver reportedly pulled over their cars to exchange information, the prosecutor said. When the woman called her husband to obtain additional car information, the defendant allegedly punched the victim repeatedly, the prosecutor added.

Following the assault, Smith reportedly grabbed the woman's purse, returned to his vehicle and attempted to leave, the prosecutor said. When the victim's husband drove into the parking lot to help his wife, the defendant allegedly rammed his car into the man's vehicle, according to the prosecutor.

After the collision, Smith reportedly fled the scene, the prosecutor said. Five days later, the defendant was located and arrested in connection with the attack.

Smith is scheduled to return to court on April 28 for a prehearing conference in Department SO1 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 25 years to life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.